



**DRUG ABUSE IN UGANDA: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS ON THE EFFICACY OF  
THE LAWS PROHIBITING DRUG ABUSE. A CASE STUDY OF MBALE  
DISTRICT.**

**BY**

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**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF LAW IN  
PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
THE AWARD OF BACHELORS DEGREE IN LAW AT  
KAMPALA INTERNATIONAL**

**UNIVERSITY**

**JULY, 2019**

### DECLARATION

I, **Akora Emmauel** heart fully declare that this project is in its original status through the field work and data analysis I undertook. It has never been produced and presented anywhere for the academic awards in this university or elsewhere including other higher institutions of learning.

SIGNATURE .....  ..... DATE 17<sup>th</sup>/7/19 .....

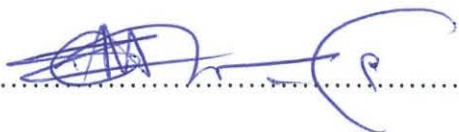
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### APPROVAL

This is to certify that the study carried out by Akora Emmanuel under the title “Drug abuse in Uganda a critical analysis on the efficacy of the laws prohibiting drug abuse. A case study of Mbale district” was under my supervision as a University supervisor. It is now ready for submission to Kampala International University with my approval.

SIGNATURE .....



DATE .....

16/07/2019.

MR. EMMANUEL MUWONGE

(SUPERVISOR)



## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this piece of work to my parents Mr. Emou Domnic and Mrs. Aloba Martha, who have fought their deliberations to have courage and fortitude and kept struggling in spite of odds in seeing my dreams of education fully realized.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I pass a word of thanks to the Heavenly Lord for being there for me always in my academic career for this success I count on today.

I extend a vote of thanks to a number of people who unreservedly, contributed towards the accomplishment of this research work.

I also would like to acknowledge the assistance and role played by the following personalities to the successful completion of this study.

I cannot say exactly how grateful I am to my supervisor, Mr. Emmanuel Muwonge (**Senior Counsel at Katende Ssempebwa and Co Advocate**). His guidance in this study was beyond measure. Thank you also for providing me with professional advice, encouragement and your time that has spurred me to success.

In the same way, I would like to thank friends like Emmanuel Okot, Meshack Okware and Olet Felix for their effort in making me successful in this project.

I cannot forget the efforts of the staff of Kampala International University (KIU) especially the lecturers at school of law that made me acquire the invaluable knowledge.

Your contribution can never be quantified but will always be reminiscent whenever I look through this book.

Lastly, I thank my parents for sacrificing the little they had, in thick and thin and invested in my education. This sacrifice that you made failed in other peoples' homes.

Thank you for looking after me and enabling me to acquire a lifelong investment.

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

CPS	Central Police Station
ICD	international classification of diseases
KIU	Kampala International University
MTF	Monitoring the Future
UN	United Nations
UNGASS	United Nations General Assembly special session
WHO	World Health Organization

## **LIST OF AUTHORITIES**

The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995

Narcotic drug and psychotropic substances

The Enguli (manufacture and licensing) Act.

The Liquor Act Cap 93.ganda Vs Adam Kalungi 2012

Uganda Vs Adam Karungi 2012

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## **CHAPTER CHARACTERIZATION (BREAK DOWN OF CHAPTERS)**

### **Chapter one**

#### **Introduction**

The chapter introduces the definition of drug abuse; shows that the abusers are and what type of drugs are being abused in Uganda particularly in Mbale district. More so the chapter gives a guide on how the research was conducted by the author by for instance sharing the objective of the study, significance of the study and as well as the methodology used in gathering the information. The chapter as well explains the limitation and strength of the study.

### **Chapter two literature reviews**

The chapter is based on this literature works of the different authors about drug abuse in society today. Different authors give their views and perceptions as to particular fact situations about drug abuse. Therefore after critically analyzing their views, the researcher then critics on those views. i.e disagreeing and agreeing to this perception while giving reasons for agreeing and or disagreeing.

### **Chapter 3 (the legal framework and its effectiveness on Drug abuse).**

This chapter introduces the applicability of laws concerning drug abuse both at the international level and domestic perspective. The chapter goes on the state these laws outlining the role each law his played in trying to curb drug abuse in Uganda and to generally give the effectiveness of these laws to Ugandan society today as far as drug abuse is concerned.

### **Chapter 4 research findings (causes, effects, of drug abuse and the types of drugs being abused).**

This chapter majorly deals with the findings of the researcher. After a thorough analysis by the writer, he comes to realize that there are a number of reasons as to why people abuse drugs; the effects of abusing such drugs and the types of drugs being abused; for instance Marijuana, Sisha, cocaine, alcohol among others.

### **Chapter five (Recommendation and conclusion)**

In this chapter, the researcher identifies some recommendations or measures that government and other stakeholders can adopt to curb drug abuse. The researcher finally makes a general conclusion on the research study.

## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.1 Introduction

This thesis focuses on drug abuse in Uganda, basically showing who the abusers are and what type of drugs are being abused and the position of the laws of Uganda on drug abuse particularly its enforceability.

**Drugs like Cocaine, shisha, cigarettes, Marjuana, Mairungi** and alcoholic drinks will be the main focus of the researcher most especially in some of the most populated districts of Uganda including all urban towns like Kampala Jinja and Mbale.

Drug abuse is one area in which many people believe the criminal law either should not be employed or should be more restricted. One of the major problems in analyzing drug abuse is to understand the forms, beginning with the word drug which may be defined as follows<sup>1</sup>;

“An article intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of diseases in many other than animals and any article other than food intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals.

The positive consequences of drug abuse include:

1. Some drugs are used for medical reasons such Marjuana. Analysts say that drugs like Marjuana help reduce pain of cancer.

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<sup>1</sup> Black law Dictionary, special clause 5<sup>th</sup> Ed ( St. Paul, MN: west 1979),P.446

2. For many drug addicts, drugs and / or alcohol helps them to relax.

Many people use drugs or alcohol to escape the stressors of everyday life. For example, if a person is having marriage problems, they may choose to get drunk and forget about their problems, instead of dealing with issues that are causing emotional and relational distress.

3. Drugs and alcohol makes one feel less tired. In some cases, people may feel like drugs or alcohol gives them energy they need to get through the day; complete a task, or just feel normal. The negative consequences include:

1. Physical health there is physical damage, that is done to some parts of the body, like liver, lungs etc due to drug abuse.
2. Financial hardships; addiction often goes hand-in-hand with financial distress, as many addiction individuals will spend all their money and resources to obtain their drug of choice.

As so defined, the word drug is positive. Drugs are to be used for medical reasons. Some drugs however have been defined as illegal, and in this chapter, we consider those drugs as well as the abuse of illegal drugs. Drugs include alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, and other substances.

In many cases, it is impossible to separate the excessive use of alcohol from the abuse of other drugs in terms of effects because many people who abuse one substance also abuse others: So what is meant by drug abuse?

Some define it in terms of addiction, but clearly, in criminal law, one may abuse drugs without being addicted; so in this context, we use the American social Health Associations definition of drug abuse<sup>2</sup>;

**“The use of mood modifying chemicals outside of medical supervision, and in a manner which is harmful to the person and the community”.**

Internationally, the World Health Organization (WHO) guides and standardized world medical diagnosis in its international statistical classification of diseases and related health problems (ICD) manual. It defines drug abuse as the self-administration of any drug in a manner that diverts from approved medical or social patterns within a given culture. It should be noted that the definition includes both legal and illegal drugs.

Drug abuse has escalated dramatically in recent years. Most drug abusers are young, poor or both. No nation is immune from the devastating consequences of drug abuse and illicit trafficking<sup>3</sup>. Drug and substance abuse has continued to be an issue of great concern with over 200 million people reported to be drug abusers in the world. The use of drugs and substances of abuse particularly tobacco, alcohol, cocaine, marijuana among Uganda’s popular growing age has led to public outcry. It is in this regard that the study is aimed at investigating the causes, effects and legal analysis of drug abuse.

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<sup>2</sup> Quoted in Howard Abadinsty Drug Abuse” An introduction, (Chicago: Nelson. Hall 1989) p.2.

<sup>3</sup> Supra pg 16 remarks by retired UN Sec general.- Or. Boutros outros- Ghali during the international day Against Drug Abuse and illicit trafficking of June 26. 1992.

## 1.2 Background

Uganda is an East African country popularly referred to as the pearl of Africa. It has an economy which is widely driven by agriculture, tourism and industry, and the country has an estimated 44.5 million people.

In 1998, the United Nations gave its office on drugs and crime a mandate to publish comprehensive and balanced information in international drug control: Every year the United Nations office releases a world drug report that shows prevalence and further reiterates that the war on drugs is on a downward trend with devastating consequences to individuals and societies among the world.

In 1975, there was a survey that was conducted by Monitoring the Future (MTF) which is funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The study revealed that 30.7 percent of high school students reported using illicit drugs in the month prior to the survey<sup>4</sup>

Drug abuse has been on the rise most especially the urban towns of Uganda like in Kampala, Mbale, Mbarara, Jinja, and more so by both the young and adults.

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<sup>4</sup> Crome and criminology (Drug Abuse) chapter 10, pg 316 by sue titus Reid.

**It's upon this background that my research will focus on drug abuse in Mbale district.**

In 2009 National Survey on Drug use and Health: A summary revealed that the rate of current illicit drug use among persons aged 12 or older in 2009 (8.7 percent- higher than the rate in 2008 (8.0 percent) and that marijuana was the most commonly used drug<sup>5</sup>

Drug Abuse causes crime, violence and draws humans of financial and other resources that might otherwise be used for social and economic transformation. It is upon this background that this writer seeks to analyze the causes, effects of drug abuse and more so the position of the laws.

**1.3 Statement of the problem**

The issue of Drug abuse has for long been a predominant one in Uganda. The criminal justice system and that law enforcement agencies have not been of much help in trying to curb the vise. In this regard, there is need to research on prevalence, enforcement mechanism, awareness, and effects of drug abuse as a vice on the activities of the people affected in Mbale Municipality.

It has been established that many youth in Mbale Municipality have been taken captive by alcohol, cocaine and marijuana.

**1.4 Objective of the study**

The objective of the study includes the following

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<sup>5</sup> U.S Department of health and Human services, substance ... Results from 2009 National Survey on drug use and Health: Summary (Crime & Criminology) Drug Abuse pg 318 by sue titus Reid.

- a) To determine the causes and effects of drug abuse in Uganda.
- b) To examine the laws related to drug abuse, illustrating their effectiveness and enforceability.
- c) To analyze ways of curbing drug abuse in Uganda
- d) To make recommendation that might help cure the vice

**1.5 Scope of the study**

(1) Geographical scope. Owing to the fact that most of the people who abuse drugs are urban dwellers, the research will therefore be conducted in the urban center of Mbale Municipality since they are among the towns with highest percentage of drug abuse.

(2) Time scope. The case study will be conducted between April 1<sup>st</sup> to July 2019.

**1.6 Significance of the study**

(1) This study will be useful to the students since they will use it as a point of reference.

(2) The study is significant because it tries to find the causes of drug abuse and provide solutions to it.

**1.7 Methodology**

The research will heavily rely on primary data due to the nature of the subject of research. This was thoroughly analyzed and critiqued by the researcher before drawing his own conclusion. Data will be obtained from district health experts, drug addicts, and from other sources like newspapers, journals, textbooks, and non-governmental organizations publications, reports from libraries and other scholars and schools of thought.

**1.8 Limitations and strength of the study**

**Limitations of the study**

- (1) Data collected is sometimes based on opinion by other health experts facts analyzed on observation which may reduce the authenticity of certain information.
- (2) The method of collecting data i.e. movement from one place to another consumes time since it involves employing particular skills to the analysis of data.

**Strength of the study**

- (1) The study allows flexible revision of data as soon as new information is collected.
- (2) The subject matter and issues evolving in this research are analyzed in detail.

## 1.9 Literature review

This chapter contextualizes drug abuse as a vice; notwithstanding the fact that drug abuse is a phenomenon which is as old as mankind. The use of drugs among the youth has been growing and spreading like bush fire around the globe. No nation has been spared from the devastating problem caused by drug abuse and alcohol<sup>6</sup>. Therefore in this chapter, the writer will try to look at the views of different scholars on drug abuse and the effectiveness of the laws governing it; the researcher will also give his own views and perception where necessary and give a critic on the opinions of such scholars or concur with them, giving various reasons for criticizing and or concurring.

### Drug addiction

According to Halm, Payne, Lucas,<sup>7</sup> introduces the notion of addictive behavior, stressing that drug and alcohol use are two of the many forms of addictive behavior. That the process of developing an addiction has been a much studied topic. This therefore makes the authors to introduce two basic concepts of addictive behavior, i.e. exposure and compulsion.

To the authors, an addiction can begin after a person is exposed to a drug (such as alcohol) or a behavior that he or she finds pleasurable. Perhaps this drug or behavior temporarily replaces an unpleasant feeling or sensation.

Whereas the author is right owing to the fact that there can be an addictive behavior among the drug abusers, he does not make us clearly understand

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<sup>6</sup> Drafting policy on alcohol and drug abuse for Kenya national bureau of statistics

<sup>7</sup> Hal, payne and lucas: Focus on health pg.409

what an exposure to a drug is? And how exposure to a drug makes one addicted.

For instance the author does not look at a scenario where a person abuses a drug but out of a malicious act of a third party i.e. being forced to take it or consume alcohol by a third party-but he does not become addicted since it was not his decision to take it. So, do we call this an exposure to addiction as the authors state it? The absolute answer is No, and this makes the assertions of the authors so ambiguous.

**Drug use Vis avis Crime and Violence.**

The question to be asked is, does the use of drugs cause crime and violence? It might seem obvious to a reader of today’s newspaper or a viewer of television that drugs and crime are linked. There are frequent reports of killings attributed to worrying gangs of drug dealers<sup>8</sup>. It is in no doubt that more than 50 percent of people who take drugs tend to develop criminal tendencies.

I completely concur with the author that the use of drugs leads to crime and violence in our society. This is true because according to Mbale municipal prison statistics,<sup>9</sup> there are more inmates in cell (Mbale) who have been convicted of drug related crimes. More so, it has been established that more than 5 motorcyclists are arrested on daily basis along the streets of Mbale for driving and riding while under the influence of alcohol and other drugs

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<sup>8</sup> Drugs, society & human behavior; by Corl .L. Hart; Charles pg.41  
<sup>9</sup> Report by Commissioner of prisons, John Byabasaija on drug abuse 2017 (prison annual report).

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter contextualizes drug abuse as a vice; notwithstanding the fact that drug abuse is a phenomenon which is as old as mankind. The use of drugs among the youth has been growing and spreading like bush fire around the globe. No nation has been spared from the devastating problem caused by drug abuse and alcohol<sup>10</sup>. Therefore in this chapter, the writer will try to look at the views of different scholars on drug abuse and the effectiveness of the laws governing it; the researcher will also give his own views and perception where necessary and give a critic on the opinions of such scholars or concur with them, giving various reasons for criticizing and or concurring.

#### **2.1 Drug addiction**

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<sup>11</sup> Hal, payne and lucas: Focus on health pg.409

Whereas the author is right owing to the fact that there can be an addictive behavior among the drug abusers, he does not make us clearly understand what an exposure to a drug is? And how exposure to a drug makes one addicted.

For instance the author does not look at a scenario where a person abuses a drug but out of a malicious act of a third party i.e. being forced to take it or consume alcohol by a third party-but he does not become addicted since it was not his decision to take it. So, do we call this an exposure to addiction as the authors state it? The absolute answer is No, and this makes the assertions of the authors so ambiguous.

**2.2 Drug use Vis avis Crime and Violence.**

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I completely concur with the author that the use of drugs leads to crime and violence in our society. This is true because according to Mbale municipal prison statistics,<sup>13</sup> there are more inmates in cell (Mbale) who have been convicted of drug related crimes. More so, it has been established that more

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<sup>12</sup> Drugs, society & human behavior; by Corl .L. Hart; Charles pg.41  
<sup>13</sup> Report by Commissioner of prisons, John Byabasaija on drug abuse 2017 (prison annual report).

than 5 motorcyclists are arrested on daily basis along the streets of Mbale for driving and riding while under the influence of alcohol and other drugs<sup>14</sup>

However, the fact that drug users engage in robbery or that Car thieves are likely to use illicit drugs does not say anything about causalities. This therefore means that both criminal activity and drug use could well be caused by other factors, producing both types of deviant behavior in the same individuals. It is therefore not good to marry the ideas of the school of thought that upon the taking of a drug, the next step is committing a crime. This is because there is little evidence to that effect most especially with most illicit substances e.g. in most individuals, marijuana produces a state more a kin to lethargy than to crazed violence, and heroin tends to make its users more passive and perhaps sexually impotent.

**2.3 Drugs Considered to be positive**

Positive drugs are these drugs accepted by the society. They are obtained easily from the shops, clinics, hospitals, dispensaries. However such drugs should always be carefully administered. It is also imperative that the user is advised on managing any anticipated side effects toxiciting and adherence to the drug prescribed. **Now the question is? Is marijuana a positive drug?**

In recent years, the Ugandan war on drugs has been criticized. Critics argue that the war denies to some sick people the drugs needed for treatment. They note that drugs such as marijuana help in the treatment of cancer pain.

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<sup>14</sup> Report by the police spokesperson Asan Kasingye: in June 2017

According to Arnold S. Frenach<sup>15</sup> stated that drug policies brought little benefit to anyone, adding that the world does not have the capacity to manage a successful war on any drug.

Whereas there has been an argument among the people that marijuana cures cancer, there is no enough evidence to ascertain the truthfulness of these assertions, and relying on them would be a historic mistake. Again I disagree with the opinion of Arnold. S. Trebach that drug policies brings little benefit to anyone and that the world does not have the capacity to manage a successful war on any drug. This is because it becomes quite clear that the author is promoting the use of drugs among the people. The author does not see the possibility of countries coming up together with good policies that help combat the vice. A good example is the Middle East countries that have less than 5 percent of the people consuming drugs.

This because they come together and enacted good laws and policies that helped shape their societies free from drugs.

#### **2.4 A Media view of Marijuana and Violence**

Many people today advocate the legalization of marijuana, basing their positions on the belief that the drug is not a dangerous one. Unlike crack cocaine, the advocates proclaim marijuana is not associated with violence. The Uganda police (particularly those in Kampala) take a different view, as related

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<sup>15</sup> Macmillan publishing company, news release concerning the book by Arnold S. Treback, the Great Day war (1988) pg96.

in the daily monitor an article entitled” marijuana a sponsor of violence”<sup>16</sup> A person who reads only the title as many probably did, could reasonably conclude that violence is associated with marijuana.

A closer reading of the article, however leads to the conclusion that police are associating violence with the sale of marijuana but not its use. For instance, one police official stated: “marijuana trade in Kampala is controlled and run through the use of violence” It is however interesting to note that the Ugandan police do not keep data on marijuana related violence or crime. So these pronouncements may be misleading and inaccurate. Still the media headline is impressive, as it will convince many of its position. A closer reading however reveals that it is the profit in selling marijuana that is associated with the violence.

## **2.5 Alcohol-Related family Problems**

**According to Dale B Hadhn, Wayne A Payne, and Ellen B. Lucas<sup>17</sup>.**

Considerable description occurs in the families of alcoholics, not only from the consequences of drinking behavior (such as violence, illness, and unemployment) but also because of the uncertainty of the family’s role in causing and prolonging this situation. Family members often begin to adopt a variety of dysfunctional roles that allow them to cope with the presence of the

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<sup>16</sup> Daily monitor of May 2014

<sup>17</sup> Dale B Halhn, Wayne Payne, Ellen lucas: Focus on health RA776. 4142 2009

alcoholic in the family. Unless family members receive appropriate counseling, those unhealthy roles may remain intact for a life time.<sup>18</sup>

I entirely agree with the authors due to the fact that most of our families tend to have a variety of wrangles and fights when the family members take drugs. A majority of the cases reported to the Central Police Station (CPS) Kampala stem from alcoholic consumption. It is therefore true that the problem of drinking among family members is what has increased dysfunctioning of families in our contemporary societies today.

## **2.6 Report of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.**

According to the institute, there was a marked increase in drug trafficking in 2001; interestingly local demand for bad drugs was also being created. It was estimated that 5-10 percent of the population are dependent and regular users, 18 percent of men and less than 2 percent of woman both smoke and drink; that other drugs of abuse include cannabis, which grows widely in the green climate of Uganda and abuse is common especially among urban elites<sup>19</sup>

I entirely agree with the author that there is a marked increase in drug trafficking and drug abuse in the country.

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<sup>18</sup> Woititz Adult children of Alcoholics. Health communication, inc; 190.

<sup>19</sup> National institute on Drug Abuse (challenges of intervening in drug abuse in Uganda) by Lumbuye-Guba; E. Kinyanda. Ug youth Development link Kila Ug.

**This is true most especially evidenced by the death of former Member of Parliament Cerinah Nebanda due to drug abuse,**<sup>20</sup> most youth have resorted to taking drugs as a way of forgetting problems.

Martin plant and Moira plant in their book<sup>21</sup> argue that in most societies males use drugs more than females; but further argues that females are likely or in some cases, more likely than male's base or misuse specific drugs. For examples males in Britain drink more than female but the latter are more likely than males to take prescribed tranquillizers. Social norms which once constrained women from drinking and using others drugs have been changing.

This has been reflected by a change in the gender's relative positions with regards to patterns of drugs use.

I entirely agree with the authors reasoning that males use drugs in societies more than females, but that females are more likely to abuse other than males. Basing in our Ugandan context, there has always been a high rate of drug consumption among men than women.

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<sup>20</sup> Uganda Vs Adam Kalungi & 5 other 2012.

<sup>21</sup> Uganda Vs Adam Karungi

However where women have been involved, the result has been always total drug abuse more than as compared to their male counterparts. This explains the death of former member of parliament Cerinah Nebanda<sup>22</sup>

The author further argues that human's beings have a wide –spread and long-standing affinity for alcohol, tobacco, Cannabis, Opiates and allied substances. Most people are in some way drug users and the values of such substances is underlined by the voracious demand for them. Sadly humans aren't always rational or careful in this ways. Drug taking is all too often complicated by inappropriate or harmful use.

I agree with the authors views basing on the facts that so many people in society today have fallen in love with alcohol and related drugs, such as Marijuana, khat etc. For example it has widely been known that the number of parliament for Kyadondo East Hon. Robert Kyagulanyi (Bobi wine) has been a Marijuana smoker.

However humans have always failed control drug consumption amongst themselves.

This explains why there is a lot of fighting between the drug users after taking these drugs for example in bars and night clubs<sup>23</sup>.

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<sup>22</sup> Ibid

<sup>23</sup> (Risk takers; Alcohol, drugs and sex. By Martin Plant & Moira Plant ) pg 6

In the book Alcoholism<sup>24</sup>; the authors state that with all the risks linked to alcohol, people still drink because drinking makes people feel good; that, alcohol consumption affects the mechanism of certain brain chemical called neurotransmitters. That this neurotransmitter is responsibility for inhibiting brain activity and that alcohol stimulates the brain and which is why many people find it relaxing. The author's further state that alcohol and much other addictive substance increase the level of chemical called Dopamine in the brain, which is associated with pleasurable sensations that follow experience like eating and sex. The authors categorically states that alcohol stimulates the sex urge among people who drink.

I again agree with the author that alcohol makes one feel relaxed and happy.

This is because in my interview with the majority of students who take alcohol in Mbale district, about 70% revealed that they feel relaxed. To some extent I also agree with the authors that alcohol tends to increase the rate of eating and increases the sexual urge among people.

This explains why prostitutes are normally found in bars and night clubs where people drink from because they have high market in such places.

However, not all people who drink tend to have an increases level of eating or sexual urge among them. In fact some people after taking alcohol loose appetite for food. More so the type of alcohol taken matters, for instance

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<sup>24</sup> Alcoholism; by Maria Gifford with Stacy Friedman and Rich Mejerus pg 13

alcohol like Mukomboti and Ajono don't increase to sexual urge in people. Therefore, the author's assertions of increase in the rate of eating and sex upon taking alcohol are to some extent misleading.

## CHAPTER THREE

### 3.0 The Legal framework and its effectiveness on Drug Abuse

#### 3.1 Legal framework at international level

The United Nations General Assembly special session (UNGASS) 1998 in Geneva, Switzerland held on 8-12 June agreed on key international commitments to control drug and substance abuse. The declaration issued by member states requested that they address drug abuse in a holistic manner and that they set up effective drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes, which programmes should be culturally valid and based on knowledge acquired from research as well as lessons derived from past programs<sup>25</sup>

In a closing statement delivered on his behalf by Pino Arlacchi, executive Director of the United Nations International drug control program, secretary General Kofi Annan Said that; the end of session marked the start of the new chapter in global drug control. We are not starting a “new war on drugs”. In fact there never was any. Instead the better analogy for international community is that of a doctor facing a deadly disease. Drugs simply kill people<sup>26</sup>.

Earlier treaties had only controlled coca and its derivatives such as morphine, heroin, and cocaine. The convention adopted in 1961 consolidated those

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<sup>25</sup> UN office on drugs and crime 2005 Treatment and guiding principles and curriculum for training in peer to peer prevention for East African countries [www.un.odc.org](http://www.un.odc.org).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid

treaties and broadened their scope to include cannabis and drugs whose effects are similar to those of the drugs specified.

The commission on narcotic drugs and the world health organization were empowered to add, remove and transfer drugs among the treaties four schedules of controlled substances.

### **3.2 Legal Framework on Domestic Perspective**

The following are some of the domestic laws in Uganda that have tried to govern drug abuse i.e. Narcotic Drug and psychotropic substances (control) Act, The Enguli (Manufacture and licensing) Act, the Liquor Act Cap 93.

### **3.3 Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances (control) Act.**

Uganda's parliament passed the Narcotic Drugs in 2016 law, a draconian piece of legislation, the law purports to deter drug abuse by imposing inhumanely long prison sentence- a conviction for simple possession can lead a person in a cell for 25 years.

**Under Section 4 of the Act provides for penalty** for possession of narcotic drugs and substances; any person who has in his or her possession any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance commits an offence. Further under **Section 4**

(2) A person who commits an offence under **Sub Section (1)** is liable on conviction,

**The Act also provides for a penalty for cultivation of certain plants**<sup>29</sup>, no person shall cultivate any prohibited plant from which a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance may be extracted, without the written consent of the minister responsible for health. Any person who cultivates any prohibited plant or as owner, occupier or manager of premises permits the cultivation of such prohibited plant commits an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not less than one hundred and twenty currency points or three times the market value of the prohibited plant, whichever is greater or to imprisonment of not less than five years or both.

**Section 87** gives police officers powers to arrest without a warrant of a person who commits or attempts to commit or is reasonably suspected by the police officer to have committed or about to commit an offence under the Act.

**Sec 84** provides for seizure of narcotic drugs and conveyance. It provides that all articles and things including any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance, motor vehicle, aircraft, ship or other conveyance that are liable to forfeiture may be seized and detained by any police officer or any other person authorized in writing by the inspector General of Police.

### **3.4 The Enguli (Manufacture And Licensing) Act.**

The Act was enacted with the main aim of regulating the manufacturer, licensing and sale of Enguli and for other purposes connected therein.

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<sup>29</sup> Section 11

**The Act prohibits the manufacture, Sale of Enguli without a licence**<sup>30</sup> it provides that no person shall manufacturer, sell or otherwise deal in Enguli, have in his or her possession any Enguli or have in his or her management or control any apparatus used or intended to be used for the manufacture of Enguli. Therefore an Enguli licence can be granted to persons under **Section 7**. An area licensing board may on application made to it and on payment of the free on such form and at such rate as may be prescribed by the minister by rules, grant to any person an Enguli licence.

An Enguli licence shall specify;

- a) The premises in respect of which it is in force;
- b) The maximum quantity of Enguli per month which the holder of the licence is permitted to manufacture for sale to this exclusive licensee.
- c) The period of the validity of the licence.

**The Act also provides for the form and duration of Enguli licence**<sup>31</sup>. An enguli licence shall be in such form as may be prescribed by the minister. Enguli licence shall be issued quarterly or six-monthly or yearly in any one year or shall come into force on the first day of the quarter or the first day of the six-monthly period or on the first day of the year, as the case may be.

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<sup>30</sup> Section 2 of Enguli (manufacture and licensing) Act.

<sup>31</sup> Section 9 ibid

**The Enguli Act provides for revocation of Enguli licence**<sup>32</sup> An area licensing board may revoke any Enguli licence issued by it under if the licence holder fails to supply to the exclusive licensee the quantity of Enguli specified in his or her licence or is convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude under any written law other than the Act and for which a sentence of imprisonment has been passed for any term without the option of a fine.

**Offences and penalties are also provided for in the Act.** For any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or any orders or directions, to such an extent that such a person will be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding three thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding. Six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

### **3.5 The liquor Act Cap 93.**

The Act was enacted with the sole aim of regulating the manufacture, and sale of intoxicating liquor and to provide for matters incidental there to and connected therein.

**The Act prohibits a person from selling liquor manufacturing liquor in a municipality, town or trading centre if the person is not licenced**<sup>33</sup> The Act goes ahead to impose a penalty of a fine not exceeding ten thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

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<sup>32</sup> Section 10 *ibid*

<sup>33</sup> Section 2 of liquor Act Cap 93

Section 5 requires every licence to specify the premises in respect of which it is in force and shall authorize the sale of liquor or the manufacture or sale of native liquor only on those premises.

**The Act also restricts on issue of licence.** It provides that where a licensing authority is an administration, it shall not issue or transfer a spirituous liquor licence to any person without the consent of the district commissioner.

Cancellation and suspension of licence is also provided for in the Act<sup>34</sup>. This occurs to a licence who has been convicted of an offence under the Act or even an offence in respect of his or her licensed premises:-

- (1) Under the public health Act or the food and drugs Act or under the provisions of the penal code Act relating to the keeping of premises for purposes of prostitution or as a common gaming house.

Further a licensing authority may cancel a licence issued by it if the licensee ceases to carry on business authorized by the licence or is sentenced to imprisonment for any offence.

**The liquor Act provides for a penalty of a fine not exceeding five thousand shillings<sup>35</sup>** to a licensee who himself or herself or by his or her servant or agent sells or supplies outside the permitted hours to any person in his premises any intoxicating liquor to be consumed. The Act affects even

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<sup>34</sup> Section 14 of the Liquor Act Cap 93

<sup>35</sup> Section 18 *ibid*.

any person who outside the permitted hours, consumes any intoxicating liquor in or takes any intoxicating liquor from any licensed premises.

**Section 19** of the Act tries to protect young persons from accessing the bar. It is to the extent that any licensee who allows a person under the apparent age of eighteen years to be in a bar or his licensed premises, other than a bar in a members club, during the period when the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquor is authorized by his or her licence commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred shillings.

**Section 25** provides for denatured spirits. It provides that any person who,

- a) Prepares any denatured spirit for use as a beverage or as a mixture with a beverage,
- b) Sells of denatured spirits
- c) Uses any denatured spirit or any derivative thereof in the preparation of any article capable of being used wholly or partially as a beverage or internally as a medicine or
- d) Sells or has in his or her possession any article of the kind. Commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or both.

### **3.6 Weaknesses of our current legislation regulating drug abuse.**

Most of these laws on alcohol consumption and abuse in Uganda were enacted a long time ago, in 1965. Therefore owing to the fact that man lives in a changing society and that many years have since passed thus affecting the applicability of these laws i.e. Enguli Act and liquor Act, in addressing the drug abuse problem today (2019). There is a need to revise and consolidate these laws to meet the demands of our today society. This will help deter many alcohol related crimes from happening.

Penalties provided under the current laws like the liquor portable spirits and Enguli Act is too small to have any effect on the current levels of alcohol abuse. For example the liquor Act Cap 93 still imposes fines of two and five hundred shillings for crimes like underage alcohol use.

Alcohol taxes under the law are generally too high on imported alcohol but low on locally manufactured alcohol. This literally means that low taxes makes it cheaper and also means that levels of consumption are high due to accessibility.

Under the liquor Act, children are allowed to purchase alcohol for consumption by another person (adult) and are also allowed certain types of alcohol at meals. This fails to serve the original agenda of this Act as it exposes children to alcohol abuse.

The laws governing drug abuse are poorly enforced as enforcers lack the capacity and resources required in alcohol investigation and prosecution procedures such as forensics.

The UNBs Act which enforces standards for commodities sold in Uganda does not have any noted standards for native liquor like Enguli, drugs like mairungi yet its consumption is very fatal to human health.

There are also many types of drugs and alcohol not covered in the current laws because they were not in circulation when these law were enacted; they include local brews like Kasese, Lira Lira, Ajono and drugs like mairungi.

In conclusion therefore, there is a serious need to review the laws and institutions which regulate alcohol to address the changing social and economic patterns and government policies. Those laws also need to be consolidated into one for ease of reference.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **4.0 Research findings (causes effects of drug abuse and the types of drugs being abused)**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter majorly deals with the findings of the researcher. After a thorough analysis by the writer, he comes to realize that there are a number of reasons as to why people abuse drugs, the effects of abusing such drugs and the types of drugs being abused. Though there has been increasing drug abuse in society, it should be noted that it is not only the abuser who is affected but even those around him i.e. in case of cigarette smoking, those around the abuser are also affected (they become passive smokers)

#### **4.2. Causes of drug abuse**

There are various reasons why people abuse drugs and these vary from one individual to another as analyzed below.

##### **Peer pressure**

Peer pressure occurs when a person is influenced by another. A majority of drug abusers interviewed revealed that they started taking drugs just to suit the demands of their friends who were already in the system. Therefore, as a way of seeking acceptance from his friends, a person is passed into taking drugs, as a result, peer pressure has greatly seen the rise of drug abuse in Uganda. A majority of those affected are the school going children.

### **Availability of drugs on market**

The availability of many kinds of drugs on the market and the glorification of drugs on the internet, television and radio stations draws people to the use.

Drugs like kuber and waragi, packed in sachets has been so easy to access due to its availability and its presence in shops. For instance local spirits like have on Waragi Empire are as cheap as 500shs which is affordable by many people. More so the regulatory trademark of **“not to be sold to persons less than 18 years”** has been ignored by the shop attendants. This has made the drugs available even to underage children.

### **Genetic factor**

The genetic factor has been widely attributed to drug consumption. Whereas it remains unclear which genes may be responsible, it is quite believed and known that addiction has a genetic component. Individuals who have family history of addiction especially close relatives are more likely to develop an addiction themselves.

### **Environmental factor**

Individuals born into homes in which addiction runs rampant are more likely to grow a substance at an early age and more likely to develop on addiction later in life. More so if a person grows from an area full of people who take drugs, chances of such a person following their footsteps are so high.

### **Belief that certain drugs cure diseases**

There is a growing belief among the youth that certain drugs when eaten or smoked help in the cure of diseases. For instance, marijuana has widely been advocated as a cure for cancer when smoked; a result as to why it is widely being smoked in Jamaica. This has greatly contributed to drug abuse in Ugandan society today. Canada is the first country in the world to publicly legalize the growing, trading, and smoking of marijuana.

### **To relieve stress**

A majority of youth today take drug with a belief that it helps relieve stress. A drug like marijuana once smoked makes one to forget problems. Therefore people who want to kill or relive stress take drugs so that they may forget their problems. This has widely contributed to the spread of drug abuse in Mbale district.

### **4.5 Symptoms of drug and substance abuse**

When you first start taking alcohol and other drugs, you may think you can control the level of how much you take, but over time you may need more of the drug to get the same feeling or effect. For some people, that can lead beyond abuse to addiction.

**The following are some of the symptoms or signals that you may witness as a result of drug abuse.**

- You tend to change your friends a lot
- You stop taking care of yourself
- Eat less or more than is normal depending on which type of drug you consume.
- Have problems at work or with family
- Aggressiveness
- Worsening of mental illness
- Appearing to be motivated
- Tend to isolate yourself from the rest of other people, depending on the type of drug you will consume.

#### **4.6 Effects of drug abuse**

##### **Addiction**

Consistent use of drugs causes addiction. One becomes so addicted to the drug that he cannot do without it. The drug becomes his day to day bread.

##### **Change in the functioning of the brain**

Too much use of certain drugs can sometimes alter the functioning of the brain of someone. Cocaine for instance may cause drowsiness, severe respiratory depression, seizure and even a coma.

## **Lever damage and failure**

The use of certain drugs like alcohol mainly packed in sachets for example Uganda waragi, coffee spirit can damage the lever. Even the use of kuber, mirage affects the lever as well. This is why a majority of lever damage and failure are attributed to drugs. More so, drugs like marijuana, Kuber, Miraj, have a warning in them that say; **tobacco causes heart diseases and deaths**

## **Heart Attacks**

Consistent taking of drugs can cause heart attack. The use of marijuana and alcohol for instance can cause a person to lose control for an hour or so but the drug can result in impairment to the senses, judgment and coordination for up to 24hrs. This in most cases results into heart attack

## **Divorce in families**

Often times, some families break up due to too much consumption of alcohol by one of the family members. Alcohol is said for instance to have the effect of reducing sex urge among men and as a result many women look elsewhere for sexual satisfaction. This has in turn resulted into family break up

## **Aggressiveness**

Excessive consumption of alcohol and drugs like marijuana and sisha tend to make a person so aggressive upon taking them. This in most cases results into a fight with other people, thereby causing harm or injury to oneself.

## **4.7 Types of Drug Being Abused**

### **Cocaine**

Cocaine in its purest form is white although what is sold is usually mixed with other substances like baking soda and other drugs. Arua Park is the dealers place. Cocaine may be eaten, smoked, snorted or injected into one's body. The user may be jittery and poisoned after consumption and with an overdose; a person may hallucinate, become delusional or even unconscious. Patients who use cocaine are always high, have red spots on their nose or ears and blisters on the thumb

### **Heroin**

Heroin locally called **“embaawo”** is white powder but is mostly brown in colour because of the presence of impurities. A tin full containing heroin powder is heated underneath and this turns into a liquid. Heroin can also be smoked.

Among the signs include calmness when high, mental confusion, lack of hygiene, poor appetite and bright eyes. Heroin is majorly produced in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan

### **Marijuana/Weed/Bangi**

Marijuana/weed is locally called **“enjagga”** or **“bangi”** is smoked and dissolved in water for consumption. It is a green or brown mixture of dried shredded flowers and leaves of cannabis sativa plant. Marijuana is mainly

grown in Wakiso district, Mukono, Iganga, Busia districts. Signs and symptoms may include happiness and increased appetite. In an interview with the bangi (marijuana) smokers in Mbale municipality, most of them revealed that bangi tends to give them much confidence to confront any situation. Like cocaine, marijuana tends to make you feel full of energy, but your mood may then shift to anger. You may feel like someone is out to you. It can cause you to do things that don't make sense

### **Cigarettes**

Cigarette is mainly contained of tobacco. You may not think of these as drugs, but tobacco has chemical called nicotine that gives you little rush of pleasure and energy. The effect can wear off fast and get addicted to the nicotine cigarettes; just like other drugs. Cigarette tends to damage liver and heart which may lead to heart failure in a long run.

### **Mijaj/Kuber**

Kuber or Mijaj are equally other types of drugs taken by people and it is highly addictive and usually packed in sachets similar to tea leaves. It can be put in tea or licked in its own. Kuber is rich in nicotine thus increasing the risks of heart attack. It is widely consumed by secondary students and taxi drivers. The signs include loss of appetite, body weakness.

## **Alcohol**

Alcohol addiction is common especially among the youth. The youth prefer local spirits that are normally packed in sachet such as Haveon Waragi, Uganda Waragi, Bond 7 Waragi, and Empire waragi among others. All these spirits or types of alcohol are so active and once consumed more often, it can lead to liver failure

## **Khat/Mairungi**

Khat or Mairungi is a common narcotic drug leaf. These are leaves that are normally grown in slum area and it is traded in almost all parts and districts of Uganda. Although mairungi trade and consumption is considered illegal in Uganda, it has been publicly consumed in broad day light in slum areas of Mbale such as senior quarters and around the bus park. Over the past years, there has been a gradual growth in consumption of mairungi. Consumers of mairungi normally tend to display sign such as increased alertness, excitement, energy, talkativeness, decrease appetite and difficulty in sleeping. The researcher himself has once fallen a culprit on this one. Once eaten it may lead to complete loss of erection among men for that particular time for about 12 to 24 hours.

## **Sisha**

Sisha is smoked using pipes or tubes it's normally smoked in clubs and other dancing places mostly by females. Once smoked, it may lead to loss of appetite, increased alertness. It may also lead to liver damage and death.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

In this chapter the writer tends to provide solutions or recommendations that can be adapted or put into account by government or other stake holders so as to curb the growing rate of drug abuse in Uganda societies today. The researcher identified a range of areas for attention in relation to the research carried out.

#### **5.1 Recommendation for the research.**

The following recommendations for research are based on study findings and therefore need to be strengthened.

##### **Regulate alcohol packaged in sachets.**

The researcher identified that, there are barely any laws in place that regulate alcohol packaged in sachets and as a result, this should therefore be reviewed.

Sachets (produced domestically or elsewhere) should be banned immediately and alcohol should instead be packaged in bottles with a minimum of 250mls. Sachets are cheap, available and easy to conceal by children and as such are partly responsible for increased alcohol use and related harm.

Research by professor Swahn of GSU shows that many (26%) of the youth in the slums ages 12-18 prefer consuming alcohol in the sachets and the number is likely higher among the youth who have resources.

Countries such as Zambia, Kenya and Malawi have all banned alcohol packed in sachets because of their specific harm among the youth.

In these countries local leaders, enforcement agencies, faith based organizations and civil society have supported the ban and successfully enforced it.

### **Regulate local marketing**

The liquor Act cap 93 prohibits all forms of alcohol; advertising, promotion and sponsorship through means that are false, misleading or deceptive or likely to create an erroneous impression about characteristics, health effects, or hazards of alcohol. Enforcement is needed to ensure appropriate health warnings accompanying all alcohol advertising. The new law has agreed that we need to eliminate alcohol advertising.

### **Decrease Availability.**

Prohibition of public sales should be implemented and advertised in form of road side promotions and free distribution of alcohol to minor needs to end. The time of advertising should be from 10pm to 5am when children are less likely to be listening to the radio or watching television. Another way of

decreasing the availability from the market is by reducing the quantity of alcohol produced by the factories.

### **Regulating the time of sale of alcohol**

So as to curb the high rate of drug abuse among the youth and others, the time within which alcohol and other drugs like that (mairungi) are sold should be regulated. During week days (Monday-Friday) bars should open earliest at 5pm and close at 10pm and on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) bars should open at 3pm and close at 11pm. This will further help reduce the crimes associated with drugs.

### **Licensing alcohol selling places.**

The liquor Act prohibits the selling of alcohol anywhere in Uganda without a license. All alcohol selling places should therefore have a special license allowing them the sale of alcohol and their licenses shall be revoked once they do not comply with the set standards and guidelines. This will help get rid of people who make alcohol so widely and easily available in Uganda through selling it in markets, on streets, on road sides. The issuance of license will also increase the revenue for local government urban councils and municipalities accruing from local selling places.

### **Minimum legal age rose to 21years for purposes of alcohol**

The minimum legal age for the purpose of alcohol should be a raised upon the license not to allow persons under the apparent age of 18 years to be in a bar

or licensed premises during the period of sale and consumption of alcohol. Our research demonstrates that only 17% of youth ages 12-18 report difficulty in purchasing alcohol because of their age. This means over 80% of youth find it easy to purchase alcohol despite the minimum legal drinking age of 18. Many countries have developed this international standard of 21years and therefore Uganda should follow the steps.

### **Impose high taxes on alcohol and related drugs.**

High taxes should be imposed on drugs and alcohol as this is one of the ways of curbing the high drug abuse in society. A piece of cigarette for instance should be raised to 1000shillings, local waragi sachets of 500shillings should be raised to 3000shillings, and Beers should be raised to 7000shilings. When this is done, the consumers will definitely feel a bite in the pocket and will thus reduce the consumption. A good example is a person who earns 1 dollar (3700shilings) per day and drinks waragi of 500shillings and or cigarette of 200shillings will find it difficult to purchase a sachet of waragi if the price is at 3000 and cigarette raised to 1000shillings.

### **Education and information**

Education and easy access to information should be availed to children and students. Children make major health decisions before they are 12years old. Whether to smoke, to drink or to use drugs; Information on drugs and alcohol must be communicated early and effectively, through knowledgeable teachers who understand the gateway that leads from experimentation to dependency.

Drug education in primary and secondary schools is essential, and all teachers, be taught about the dangers of poly-drug use-mixing different drugs and alcohol. And medical school curriculums must include instructions in the abusive aspects of prescription drugs. This can be a great way to reduce drugs abuse among the students at schools.

### **Gazette places of smoking**

To reduce the level of smoking among people in towns and other places, government must gazette places where people can go and smoke and stop smoking anywhere in public places. Once this is done, the rate at which people smoke will gradually reduce. This is because people will find it difficult to move to such gazette places due to back of transport. Say for instance government gazettes some areas in Kansanga and Kabalagala for all people who want to smoke in Kampala. The people who stay in the out streets of Kampala like Kalerwe, Kieran will find it expensive to travel to such places just because of smoking and in a long run, such a person who stay far will eventually stop smoking cigarette.

### **5.2 Conclusion**

In conclusion therefore whereas drug abuse is still regarded as a major threat to the growing Ugandan population—especially the youths, the government of Uganda has tried to put in place some measures that are intended to curb drug abuse in a long run.

Drug abuse among the youth is mostly as a result of peer pressure, ban wagon and a desire to gain confidence-as majority drug users put it. Others take drugs due to the environmental factor i.e. the environment in which they are brought up or natured puts them in that situation.

However the results and or effects of drug abuse are so diversitating that it can lead a lot of problems among which include, committing crimes like rape. Robbery. But this strictly depends on which type of drug one has taken. Marijuana for instance tends to make one aggressive and therefore becoming evident that one who smokes marijuana is most likely to fight anyone who comes his way.

Drugs are chemicals that affect the body and brain. Different drugs can have different effects. For example Mijaj, causes heart diseases mairuji causes alertness, makes one lose erection, alcohol like waraji makes one aggressive thereby developing a tendency of fighting. Some effects of drugs include health consequences that are long-lasting and permanent. They can even continue after a person has stopped taking the substance.

There are few ways a person can take drugs, including injection, inhalation and ingestion. The effect of the drug on the body can depend on how the drug is delivered for example the injection of the drugs directly into the blood stream has an immediate impact , while ingestion has delayed effect .But all misused drugs affect the brain.

They cause large amounts of dopamine, a neurotransmitter that helps regulate our emotions, motivation and feelings of pleasure, to flood the brain and produce a high. Eventually, drugs can change how the brain works and interfere with a person's ability to make choices, leading to intense cravings and compulsive drug use.

Due to unbelievable (and dangerous) effects of taking drugs. The government of Uganda has come up with some laws to try reducing drug consumption among its citizens.

**Ugandans parliament passed the Narcotic drugs and Psychotropic substance (control) Act**, also known as the Narcotic law. A draconian piece of legislation, the law purports to deter drug abuse by imposing inhumanely long prison sentences- a conviction for simple possession can land a person in a cell for 25years.

It is however surprising to note that besides the Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (control) Act, the rest of the laws are so weak that they tend to indirectly promote the use of drugs consumption and abuse in Uganda. Were enacted a long time ago, in 1965.

These need to be revised and consolidated for them to apply as any kind of deterrent for the many alcohol related crimes.

Penalties provided under the current law like the liquor portable spirits and Enguli Acts are too small to have any effect on the current levels of alcohol

abuse. For example this liquor Act Cap 93 still imposes fines of two and five hundred shillings for crimes like underage alcohol use.

Alcohol taxes under the current law are generally high on imported alcohol and low on locally manufactured alcohol which makes it much cheaper and also means the levels of consumption is high due to accessibility.

Under the liquor Act, children are allowed to purchase alcohol for consumption by another person (adult) and are also allowed certain types of alcohol at meals. This fails to serve the original agenda of the Act as it exposes children to alcohol abuse. Furthermore these laws are poorly enforced as enforcers lack the capacity and resources required in alcohol investigation and prosecution procedures such as forensics. The UNBS Act which enforces any noted standards for native liquor like Enguli, yet its consumption is very fatal to human health.

There are also many types of alcohol on the market not covered under any law because they were not in circulation when these laws were enacted, they include: Ajono, Lira Lira, Kasese etc.

In conclusion therefore, there is a serious need to address the changing social and economic patterns, and government policies. There laws also need to be consolidated into one for ease of reference.

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